

frankly, our views of its most vital importance, and earnestly recommend that it be distinctly made known, that we can not recognize in any of our sister States, or their citizens, any right to interfere with our slaves; and that we unequivocally deny any authority in the general Government to legislate upon the subject of their emancipation, or to disturb our rights of property in them, in any manner whatsoever.

It is confidently hoped and believed, that a temperate, yet firm and determined expression of the unanimous Resolution of the slave-holding States, to adhere to and vindicate their rights on this subject, against all extraneous interference, would have a salutary effect in awakening all calm thinking, and well intentioned abolitionists, (and without their countenance and aid, the evil intentioned would be impotent, and soon cease their efforts,) to such a deliberate reconsideration and thorough examination of the whole subject, in all its aspects and tendencies, as would induce them to cease their labours—fruitless of any good, but tending to much mischief, and to produce restlessness, dissatisfaction, inquietude, and consequent insubordination of slaves, and vexation, alarm and increased rigor on the part of masters.

We are encouraged to entertain this hope, with much confidence, by the fact which we have understood, and believe to be true, that almost every intelligent gentleman, from any of the non-slaveholding States, who has left home friendly to the abolition cause, and traveled extensively in the South, has had his mind changed, and withdrawn his countenance and support from that cause. Such has been nearly the uniform result of becoming acquainted fully, in any way, with the true state, and general condition of slaves in the United States, and the various circumstances which render general emancipation impracticable, and the movements, and proceedings with that view irritating to masters, prejudicial to slaves, and altogether impolitic and unwarrantable.

Having thus, in a cursory manner, alluded to the various subjects, to which we considered it proper to direct your attention, we cannot conclude this communication, without the expression of our earnest hope that all your deliberations may be characterized by wisdom, moderation and firmness; and that they may redound to the interest, the prosperity, and glory of the State. Maryland, at this moment, occupies a most conspicuous stand among her sisters of the Union.—She has witnessed the rapid strides to wealth and power, in most of the States, which have distinguished the last few years, and has nobly determined to enter the lists of compe-